

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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Washington State Patrol's "Most Wanted" Arrest

Detectives from the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Tacoma Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) announce the arrest of a WSP Most Wanted suspect who evaded capture for over 10 years.

Tony Hill was arrested by the U.S. Marshal's Service in Riverside County, California on January 12th. Hill was being sought by the Washington State Patrol and the Pacific Northwest Fugitive Apprehension Task Force (PNWFAT) for Felony Hit and Run charges after he collided with another vehicle on May 8, 1995 on 72nd Street in Tacoma then fled the scene. Mr. Casper J. Hegrenes (79 years of age) died as a result of injuries sustained in the collision.

WSP Detective Juli Mitchell was newly assigned to the WSP Tacoma CIU in February of 2005 when she reviewed some cold case files and started to search for Hill. During the course of her investigation she requested a photograph of Hill from the Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL) at the same time that Puyallup Police Detective Bramhall requested a photograph of a Mr. Nick Irving who was being investigated for Fraud. A DOL employee noticed that the photographs were of the same person with different names and forwarded both photographs to both detectives. The detectives from both agencies then began to work together to locate Hill (Irving).

Detective Mitchell provided the suspect information to the US Marshals Pacific North West Fugitive Apprehension Task force which is comprised of investigators from the King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle Police Department, Washington Department of Corrections, Social Security Office of Inspector General, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

Approximately two weeks ago Detective Mitchell provided PNFAT with additional information which assisted PNFAT investigators in locating Mr. Hill in California. Hill was arrested without incident by US Marshals and local law enforcement officers yesterday (January 12, 2006) at his residence in Hemet.

Hill's arrest is another example of the professional dedication to the pursuit of justice by the men and women of the Washington State Patrol, the Puyallup Police Department, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

Hill is the 42nd WSP Most Wanted Suspect arrested or located and brought to justice since the Web site was established in September of 2003.

For more information on the Washington State Patrol's "Most Wanted", go to the WSP Web site at www.wsp.wa.gov.

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